

THE GLOBAL LINE

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New program to assist repeat deployers

Department of the Army civilians in Rock Island who deploy multiple times overseas now have a new friend: Home Station Modified Direct Deployment (HSMDD).

Col. Kelly R. Jimenez, the Army Field Support Command and Joint Munitions Command Inspection Program Chief, has led a team dedicated to implementing this new pilot program.

"The Army Chief of Staff requested several ways to improve mobilization," Jimenez said. "Out of 100 proposals sent to the Army Chief of Staff, HSMDD was one of 16 selected to improve mobilization for contingency operations.

"About 40 to 50 percent of Army Materiel Command deployments in support of Southwest Asia are performed by our Logistic Assistance Representatives (LARs) on a rotational basis averaging 120 days per overseas assignment. Maintaining a 'user-friendly deployment process' for our civilians has been hard to

achieve through the normal Army mobilization process until the inception of the HSMDD concept."

Dave Arensdorf, the lead civilian and a deployable Logistics Management Specialist who developed the initial Concept of Operations, said the program leverages the existing installation infrastructure. He said it also improves the repeat deployment process for the other 55 to 60 percent of the Army civilians who volunteer to perform the Non-Logistics Assistance Program tasks that support the AMC Logistics Support Element (LSE) in SWA. According to Arensdorf, these improvements will result in more repeat deployments due to the simplified user-friendly process.

AFSC Commanding General Brig. Gen. Jerome Johnson awarded twenty-six certificates of appreciation, cash awards and three Army Commendation Medals to members of Jimenez's team in February

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Command chaplain excited about new job

Service. Support. Prayer. Those are the words that Larry Conway lives by and he wouldn't have it any other way.

Chaplain Lt. Col. Larry Conway reported to Army Field Support Command and Joint Munitions Command in January, as the new command chaplain. Before arriving to AFSC and JMC, Conway served more than three years at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, with the U.S. Army Garrison there as the Deputy Installation Chaplain.

"I see myself as a logistician to the logistician," he said. "The logistician job is to help the Soldier. I'm here to help people, so they can help the Army and our country. I'm here so that people can exercise their freedom of religion and get to know God."

Conway has already instituted a way he can relay his message to the command: through his "Chaplain Thoughts" emails. Employees can contact the chaplain's office to be placed on his distribution list. Conway then shares a passage of scripture and commentary on dealing with life's peaks and valleys.

"I'm here to be of service and support to the people who work at this command," he said.

Conway earned a bachelor's degree from Rowan University in New Jersey, a master's degree from Lutherans Theology Seminary in Philadelphia, and another masters of theology from Princeton Theological Seminary, located at Princeton University.

Conway is married and has two adult children.

Being the chaplain for two commands, however, Conway looks forward to visiting people from the different installations.

"I look forward to meeting them as I travel throughout this command," he said. "I'm here to help in anyway I can."



Lt. Col. Larry Conway

— Darryl Howlett

HSMDD *Continued from page 1*

during a command awards ceremony for providing outstanding support for development and implementation of the HSMDD program.

The award citation also stated, "Your efforts have ensured that future Department of the Army emergency essential personnel will be rapidly deployed at a lower cost to the government, while achieving less family separation stress and maximization of work production."

Previously, employees within the AFSC and JMC deploying a second or third time were required to complete their pre-deployment requirements at the CONUS Replacement Center at Fort Bliss, Texas. The CRC is the location where all first-time deploying employees complete their training.

In order to qualify for the program, employees must have processed through CRC within the last 12 months.

"AFSC volunteered to do this program," Lt. Col. Scott Kocheiser, an Army Reserve Advisor for AFSC. "We wanted to do this for our own civilians."

The team started on the HSMDD project in September, and by December the first two employees had completed the program.

"Rock Island Arsenal installation personnel were heavily involved in making this a success," Kochheiser said. "A lot of infrastructure involved with the program was already in place on this installation."

"The team worked closely and communicated routinely with the Army Medical Community to make this project happen at the installation level. With the advice and counsel of the AFSC and AMC Command Surgeons support by the myriad of medical activities, command, and staff within the Army medical and dental community we were finally able to address and improve the medical support needed to develop this program. Without their participation, we could not

have accomplished this markedly improved process."

The program is geared to support up to 15 personnel going through HSMDD per month. With authorization from the clinic's higher reporting authority, Fort Knox, to use the base clinic, software was implemented to track repeat deploying civilians progress. That system is the Deployment & Reconstitution Tracking Software, or DARTS.

"This is secure, web-based software," said Col. Jimenez. "It tracks individual deployment readiness data - personnel, legal, supply, logistics, security, training, medical, dental, vision, and finance."

Jimenez pointed out that the base medical clinic cannot provide smallpox or initial anthrax shots, or any type of dental work. Those items are one-time requirements achieved through initial processing at the CRC. All other medical issues can be addressed from the home station.

"Those deploying usually have 30 to 90 days to complete all the items before deploying. The first big items are their security clearance and medical issues," he said. "Other training can be done through computers such as pre-deployment courses and briefings. Personnel can take the test, pass and print out certificate."

Jimenez concluded his pitch for the HSMDD program by saying the goal is to improve the process.

"More Department of Army civilians would volunteer if they could deploy from their home station. This program can overcome the boundaries and break the barriers. I believe a widespread program such as this is a doorway to make AMC an expeditionary force - a platform to convert AMC to support modularity of the Army.

"It can be done as long as you are able to move forward with conviction. We are the model for AMC and they're watching us."

— Darryl Howlett

THE GLOBAL LINE

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Command Sgt. Major Osbourne ready to serve Soldiers, civilians

The Joint Munitions Command recently welcomed Command Sgt. Maj. Norberto Osbourne to his new assignment, replacing outgoing Command Sgt. Maj. David Stewart.

Arriving to the command in September, Osbourne has seen great things and is duly impressed with the breadth of JMC's mission.

"We here at JMC provide so much support to the warfighter," he said. "We provide munitions on time and on target. I see our mission as readiness."

He said he has not been here long enough to determine what the primary focus is except to support the warfighter, however, he feels that he knows enough about the organization so that he can make good recommendations.

Osbourne said he believes in the value of traveling as a way to get to know the employees and commanders within JMC's installations.

Traveling will be a large part of his job while assigned to the command.

"I need to get out more and meet the people and let them talk to me and to meet

commanders to discuss strategy and the like," he said. "I need to go out and see how JMC operates."

Osbourne views the role of a command sergeant major as that of bringing institutional knowledge of Army fundamentals (like discipline) to the command and the superior knowledge of his military occupational specialty to the job. In his case, they are maintenance, logistics and ordnance.

"These things together form the framework of the CSM's job," he said.

Traditionally, the sergeant major gets involved in issues regarding soldiers only, but Osbourne sees his command sergeant major function as liaison for all employees, not just the military, to assure the welfare of the entire workforce.

"The JMC is different than other units in that there are a lot of civilians and I feel it is my duty to

represent them as well," he said. "My job is to run interference on all issues of concern."

He feels an important part of the CSM's duty is to listen. "I feel I can make an impact just being there to listen," he said.

"The CSM is involved in all aspects of the command and understands the entire organization so that when a complaint or concern arises, it can be handled on his level without disturbing the com-

mander," he said. "Understanding the organization is crucial to ensure good advice. Each unit in the organization must be understood. Further, a CSM must be able to analyze a situation, see the other person's point of view and make a sound judgment," he said.

Although it is probably every enlisted soldier's dream to become a sergeant major, for Osbourne, it was not even on his radar screen until he became a First Sergeant.

"All I really wanted to do was take care of soldiers and families," he said.

In his first tour, he was thinking, "I'll do my three years and get out," but he grew to love it. In his words, he was "having fun." So he kept re-enlisting.

But, he believes there is a downside to a military career.

"The moves are hard on the families," he said.

In his personal experience, his three children went to different schools along the way and his wife, a teacher with the Department of the Army school system, had to always change schools as well.

- Margaret Browne



CSM Osbourne

"The JMC is different than other units in that there are a lot of civilians and I feel it is my duty to represent them as well."

JMC Command Sgt. Major Osbourne

FSB-LI employee to donate part of liver

Raniero Marti, a painter at AMC Field Support Battalion-Livorno, Italy, has never met his mother-in-law in America, but in the weeks ahead they will become as close as flesh and blood.

Suffering from hepatitis C, Marti's mother-in-law needs a liver transplant. Screening eliminated her children from consideration, but her son-in-law is a match.

"For me it is just a natural consequence of the situation. Knowing that her life depends on me does not give me a choice. Both my wife and my sister-in-law were not compatible with her blood; luckily I am. I am excited, confused, embarrassed at the moment. It is going to be long and difficult, but I strongly believe in God and he guides me through these choices," said Marti.

Marti will undergo additional screenings at New York University Hospital and if positive, surgery and a month-long recovery follow. Doctors would remove the right part of the liver for the operation.

He joined the FSB-LI team in December, on a temporary appointment until Sept. 30. "It has always been my dream to work for the U.S. government in a military environment, and even if this was a temporary position, I decided to take the chance and I

relinquished a permanent job on the economy. I love my job, and I found a family around me here at Camp Darby," he said

"Marti immediately became the paint shop hero. He is not only a true professional willing to learn the job, he also acquired in only two months growing responsibilities and always performed in the best way," commented Maurizio Franco, lead foreman of the battalion's care and preservation division.



Raniero Marti

Battalion commander Lt. Col. Mitch Wilson, speaking of Marti, said, "We are proud to have him on our staff. His integrity and honesty are an example for all of us. Marti's selfless attitude and the dedication he has shown to his job in such a short time are really impressive."

"I want to thank the commander and my supervisors for their attitude and support - they really make me feel like a son in a big family," concluded Marti.

— **Chiara Mattiolo, Camp Darby, Italy, Public Affairs specialist**

VE program saves \$83 million in FY 04

The AFSC Value Engineering (VE) Program recorded nearly \$83 million in savings in fiscal year 2004, far exceeding its goal by 377 percent.

The Program Executive Office - Ammunition (PEO-AMMO), partnering with the Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC), achieved almost \$65 million in VE savings, 812% of its \$8 million goal. Two notable VE projects- increasing efficiency in loading M80 grenades and recycling TNT-accounted for \$62 million of the \$65 million savings.

In the M80 grenade project the ARDEC/PEO-AMMO team identified problems that restricted loading insensitive munition PAX 2-A into M80 grenade submunitions in support of the 105mm M915 Projectile program to 2,000 per 10-hour shift, far short of the 25,000 grenades per shift that the Army needed to meet FY 2004-2005 requirements.

By developing a process to harvest TNT from munitions planned for demilitarization, ARDEC/PEO-AMMO prevented DoD from a critical shortfall by

2002 due to unusually high consumption in the late 1990's. ARDEC engineer Curtis Anderson, Jr. led an extensive effort to establish a downloading process and automated inspection system to ensure that reclaimed TNT was free of contaminants.

The Defense Ammunition Center (DAC) at McAlester, Okla., achieved the highest percentage of savings against annual goal of any AFSC installation/organization—\$3 million in savings, 1,077% of DAC's \$280,000 goal. DAC's major VE project involved finding a cheaper means of destroying 600,000 tons of captured enemy ammunition in Iraq.

McAlester Army Ammunition Plant also amassed significant savings from six VE projects in FY 2004 totaling \$9.5 million—356% of its \$2.674 million goal.

Other installations also performed well. Tooele Army Depot, Crane Army Ammunition Activity, and Blue Grass Army Depot contributed almost \$5.4 million in savings.

— **Bill Gallagher**

\$52 million project begins in Livorno

LIVORNO, Italy — With a ceremonial groundbreaking March 15, Army Field Support Battalion – Livorno begins a \$52 million construction project that will yield state-of-the-art facilities.

“Delivering combat-ready equipment and materiel to Soldiers in the field is a demanding and vital mission,” said Norman Jasper, FSB-LI civilian executive assistant. “New facilities will enable us to accomplish our Army prepositioned stocks and reset work more efficiently and safely.”

Most of the facilities at Leghorn Army Depot date to the 1950s, when the standard tank weighed less than half an M1’s 70 tons. “We’re mission-oriented, so we have made do with what we have,” said Alberto Chidini, FSB-LI operations chief. “With modern facilities we can improve production and ensure worker safety, a key element of our plans.”

When the project is finished, FSB-LI will have new workshops for tracked and wheeled vehicles, seven new controlled-humidity warehouses, 10 renovated warehouses and new office space.

In a joint effort, construction is under the careful watch of Navy engineers, who have oversight authority for military construction in Italy. “We’re proud to be partners with the Army and the contrac-



Photo by Chuck Fick

Officials involved in a \$52 million construction project for Field Support Battalion – Livorno, Italy, turn a symbolic spade of earth at a March 15 groundbreaking ceremony.

tors executing this project. You can be sure we will be working hard to deliver on time and at cost,” said Lt. Andy Sonier, resident officer in charge of construction for Naval Facilities Engineering Command – Europe’s Northern Italy Field Office.

Col. Ilio Venuti, Italian base commander, sees the project as “strengthening our alliance with America and bringing benefits to the community.”

- Chuck Fick

AFSB-Europe providing gear to troops

GERMERSHEIM, Germany – U.S. Army Europe Soldiers scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom are being issued the latest in field gear here through the Rapid Fielding Initiative.

The RFI is run by the Program Executive Office – Soldier and the Army Materiel Command Field Support Brigade – Europe.

To date, 3,700 Soldiers from USAREUR units have received the latest in field gear: the Advanced Combat Helmet, improved desert boots, moisture wicking undergarments, knee and elbow pads, weapons, and add-ons such as close combat optics.

Sgt. 1st Class Richard Ray, Company B, 44th Signal Battalion started his Army career with a steel pot helmet. Despite not being able to shave in this helmet, he would not trade back. “I love this, it is far superior to the old K-pot,” he said hefting the helmet. “This may be a little lighter too.”

According to Gary R. James, site manager of AMC FSB-Europe’s Gernersheim Staging Activity, the majority of the equipment arrived just after Christmas, and by Jan. 5 had started moving into Soldiers’ hands.

PEO Soldier’s mission is to develop, produce, field, and sustain



Photo by Arthur McQueen/USAREUR

Sgt. 1st Class Richard Ray dons a new Advanced Combat Helmet.

everything the Soldier wears, carries, and operates, today, throughout the Army’s transformation to the Objective Force, and beyond.

- Arthur McQueen



AFSC, JMC news briefs

Milan AAP donates funds to state via timber sales

The Director of Environmental Programs for military installations announced the state entitlements from the 2004 Installation Timber Sales. Host states are annually entitled to 40 percent of net proceeds from timber sales on Army installations in accordance with Title 10 of the United States Code for Sale of Certain Interests in Land: Logs.

During 2004, Milan Army Ammunition Plant harvested 295,000 board feet of pine saw timber and 264 cords of pine pulpwood. The Army sold the

wood to logging companies in Mississippi.

Since Milan AAP spans two counties, the US Army Environmental Center sent the 2004 payments in the amount of \$9,376 to Carroll County and \$11,933 to Gibson County. These entitlements shall be expended as the state prescribes for benefit of county public schools and county roads in which the military installation is situated. The annual entitlements vary based upon the quantity available for harvesting each year.

Anniston nominated for federal environmental award

A "Missile Recycling at the Anniston Defense Munitions Center" nomination package was submitted by Aviation Missile Research Development & Engineering Center on behalf of the Army Missile Recycling Team in support of "The White House Closing the Circle Awards."

This award is managed through the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive and recognizes federal efforts which resulted in significant contributions to or have made a significant impact on the environment.

The awards focus on waste prevention, recycling, and green purchasing in support of environmen-

tal Executive Orders. The nomination submission recognizes the leadership demonstrated by the AMRDEC, in partnership with the Aviation & Missile Command Deputy Commander for Systems Support, the Project Manager for Close Combat Weapons Systems, and the Anniston Defense Munitions Center.

The MRC Team has set a national precedent with the establishment of a "first of its kind" MRC at Anniston. It provides the Army and Anniston with a capability to safely demilitarize and dispose of obsolete and unserviceable tactical missile in a cost effective, environmentally responsible, and sustainable manner.

Microbes, man cooperate in IAAP project

No, this is not a remake of the movie, "The Blob," an outer space glop of goo that eats the universe. But this is in reality the latest plan for purifying contaminated ground water at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant.

According to Rodger Allison, environmental restoration manager at the plant, a dextrose solution injected into polluted water on the southern half of the plant helps feed microbes that are already breaking down the contamination.

According to Allison, it's nothing more than natural microbial activity that is being stimulated by a sugar solution. "We inject food and kind of grow the magic bugs," Allison said.

Army officials have kept an eye on an off-site groundwater plume near the plant since 1999, when

monitoring wells at the site revealed high levels of RDX, a compound used in explosives.

Five temporary wells were placed near the installation in late 2004 to act as portals to carry the sugar to the polluted groundwater. Preliminary results have indicated that the microbial food has spread 20 to 40 feet from each injection point. There is also good evidence that the microbes are eating the dextrose.

While the Army has used the dextrose approach in other parts of the country, Allison said the effort along the old highway is a pilot project to gauge its effectiveness at IAAP.

The purpose of the project is to determine if it's going to work effectively at the contamination levels in the types of soils at the plant, Allison said.